

AMENDMENT TO THE ABSTRACT

The following abstract will replace all prior versions of the abstract in the application:

ABSTRACT

~~Disclosed is an~~An intervertebral disk prosthesis comprising ~~having~~ an essentially hollow cylindrical base element (1) which is provided with a casing (2) that is embodied as a bellows, a top end (3), and a bottom end (4), and a central longitudinal axis (5). ~~The base element also includes~~,and an upper apposition plate (6), which is disposed perpendicular to the longitudinal axis (5) at the top end (3) of the base element (1) and rests on the base plate of the vertebra, and a lower apposition plate (7), ~~which~~ that is arranged perpendicular to the longitudinal axis (5) at the bottom end (4) of the base element (1) and leans on the cover plate of a vertebra. The casing (2) that is embodied as a bellows is configured as ~~serves~~ a spring element having a defined spring rate. Said structure largely approaches the function and purpose of a natural intervertebral disk.